Introduction to Pathway Analysis and Visualization

Exercise 1 instructions

The example data files represent lists of differentially expressed genes for ORA and GSEA analysis:

ORA data files:

lung.expr.up.txt: log2FC => 2 AND adj.P.Value <= 0.05 lung.expr.dn.txt: log2FC <= -2 AND adj.P.Value <= 0.05</pre>

GSEA data file:

lung.expr.entrez.gsea.txt: All genes and associated rank

Functional Enrichment Analysis

EnrichR

Introduction

- 1. Go to the **EnrichR** website: https://amp.pharm.mssm.edu/Enrichr/
- 2. To explore available libraries, go to the **Libraries** tab to browse.
- 3. You can also browse libraries by term, for example "cancer". From the results, you can download individual gene sets in gmt format.

Gene Ontology

- 1. Open the file with upregulated genes, lung.expr.up.txt, and copy the full list of symbols.
- 2. On the **Analyze** tab, paste the list of gene symbols in the input box.
- 3. *Note:* There is an option to contribute your gene list, which makes it available to others. If you select this option, you will be prompted to assign a name and provide a brief description of the list.
- 4. Click Submit.
- 5. When the results load, go to **Ontologies -> GO Biological Process**.
- 6. By default, the terms are sorted by p-value ranking. Clicking on any of the bars representing terms re-sorts the bar graph by the different score.
- 7. To save the bar chart, click either of the **SVG / PNG / JPG** buttons just above the bar graph.
- 8. It is also possible to change the color scheme by clicking the **Settings** icon at the top right.

- 9. Switch to the **Table** view at the top. To export the table, click the **Export entries to table** link at the bottom.
- 10. Open the downloaded table. Each row contains statistics for one GO term, and a list of changed genes for that term.

WikiPathways

- 1. At the top of the page at EnrichR, click **Pathways** to see results for pathway sets.
- 2. Click the heading for WikiPathway 2021 Human.
- 3. Again, we can export the bar graph and table.
- 4. To share or archive the results, a permanent link is available by clicking the link icon at the top of the page.
- 5. *Optional*: Repeat for the down-regulated list, **lung.expr.dn.txt**.

WebGestalt

GSEA Pathways

- 1. Go to the **WebGestalt** website: http://www.webgestalt.org/
- 2. Select **Homo sapiens** as species, **GSEA** and for Functional Database select **pathway** and then **WikiPathways**.
- 3. Under Gene List, select **Gene symbol**.
- 4. Open the lung.expr.entrez.gsea.txt file and copy the contents.
- 5. In the WebGestalt **Gene List** box, paste the GSEA data.
- 6. Skip the **Advanced Parameters** for now and click **Submit**. The results may take several minutes to load.
- 7. The top of the results page includes a job summary and a link to download the results (top right).
- 8. Results are displayed as a bar chart by default. Right-clicking on the bar chart lets you download in either PNG or SVG format. Clicking on the bars updates the pathway-specific display at the bottom of the page. The **Table** and **Volcano plot** views have similar interactivity.